

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON SERVICES TO THE AGING**  
**Region IV Area Agency on Aging**  
**2900 Lakeview Avenue, St. Joseph, Michigan**  
**March 21, 2014 @10:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Mast called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMMISSION ROLL CALL**

The Commission roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Harold Mast, Douglas Chalgian, Shannon English, Joan Ilardo, Gerald Irby, Donna Murray-Brown, Donald Newport, Richard Ortega, Renee' Reid-Smith, Patricia Rencher, Jeffery Schade, Michael Sheehan and Kristie Zamora.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT**

Michael Burri (excused).

**OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING (OSA) STAFF PRESENT**

Kari Sederburg, Wendi Middleton, Scott Wamsley, Dan Doezenia and Rebecca Payne.

**VISITORS/GUESTS PRESENT**

Lynn Kellogg, CEO, Dianne Carlson and Christine Vanlandingham, Region IV Area Agency on Aging, Congressman Fred Upton, 6<sup>th</sup> District, Clay McCausland, State Representative Al Pacholka, Bob Cochrane and Pam Kananek.

Congressman Upton, chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee in Washington, DC, provided opening remarks and welcomed the Commission. He discussed the SGR issue, also known as the "doc fix bill," related to reimbursement of physicians treating Medicare patients, and issues related to funding for this bill.

State Representative Al Pacholka welcomed the CSA and discussed Medicaid reform.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Mast added State Advisory Council Update to the informational section of the agenda, and asked for a motion to approve the amended agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Irby to approve the amended agenda.  
Commissioner Sheehan seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

## **APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES**

Commissioner Mast asked for a motion to approve the February 21, 2014, CSA minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reid-Smith to approve the minutes. Commissioner Newport seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

## **INFORMATION FROM INDIVIDUALS OR DELEGATIONS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

## **COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT**

Commissioner Mast discussed concerns of Medicare beneficiaries being admitted to hospitals as 'observation patients,' which are considered as "outpatient," is more costly, and limits their access to follow-up care according to Medicare rules.

Christine Vanlandingham is on a local hospital board, and stated they are very concerned about this issue as well, as patients who are inappropriately classified suffer. CMS is the agency driving this process.

Commissioner Mast provided a handout: *Remington Report, September 11, 2013, Key Facts about Observation Beds.*

The Area Agency on Aging Association of Michigan Annual Conference will be held on May 15th and 16<sup>th</sup> in East Lansing, with Director Sederburg and Director Havemen of the Department of Community Health providing the opening address at the conference.

## **OSA Director Report**

Director Sederburg expressed her thanks to Lynn Kellogg, Christine Vanlandingham and their team at Region IV for hosting the Commission and public hearing. She thanked Becky Payne for stepping in for Carol Dye, whose father passed away, and asked that they keep her and her family in their thoughts, and for Commissioner Newport whose mother is ill, and Commissioner Reid-Smith whose grandmother has health concerns, and for Commissioner Rencher who recently lost her mother.

Director Sederburg stated Governor Snyder recommended \$5 million for in home services and home delivered meals, \$1 million for Elder abuse initiatives, line transfers for the PACE program, and additional funding for the MIChoice Home and Community Based Waiver, noting the budget is still under negotiations. Director Sederburg stated the Silver Key Coalition is working to encourage these budget recommendations for this funding and continued funding increases as the senior population increases. She offered to send a related white paper to those interested.

Director Sederburg stated OSA received second half of Federal FY 14 appropriations. For FY15 budgets, funding is expected to go back to pre-sequestration levels. Ombudsman and elder abuse will remain the same, and other programs, such as Older Workers and the Volunteer Programs will potentially face a funding decrease.

Director Sederburg stated the representative from the Corporation for National and Community Service will attend the May or June meeting to present on changes to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs and the re-competition bid process.

Director Sederburg stated the Governor is planning his special message on aging in late May or early June, and OSA is assisting with recommendations and directions.

Director Sederburg stated OSA started Deputy Director interviews and hopes to have a formal announcement by the April meeting.

Director Sederburg stated OSA is looking for nominations for Senior Citizens of the Year, who will be announced and awarded at the Older Michiganians Day event on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Director Sederburg stated the Aging and Disability Resource Collaboration is having a 'Let's Get Real' conversation to bring together the aging and disability partners to discuss how the program is going and how to make it more fruitful statewide in the near future.

Director Sederburg stated the Long Term Care Supports and Services Advisory Commission looks at broader long term care issues. Commission Chair Reg Carter has offered to meet with the CSA to give an overview of their work and recommendations for more person-centered system that easier for citizens to access needed services.

Director Sederburg stated there are still a few bills from the package of elder abuse bills that have not yet passed, but stated they are a priority and something the Governor is committed to, and noted there will be additional conversation.

Chairman Mast thanked Lynn Kellogg for her hospitality.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **Approval of Livingston County's Application for Community for a Lifetime (CFL) Recognition**

Dan Doezenia, OSA staff, gave a brief overview of the CFL program, a recognition program for communities who conduct a comprehensive assessment of age-friendliness and readiness to serve older adults, and those who continue to make improvements in the years after receiving recognition.

Mr. Doezenia highlighted community improvements, and requested the Commission approve recognition for Livingston County's community assessment CFL application.

A motion was made by Commissioner Schade to approve the recognition. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

Mr. Doezenia explained those recognized receive a framed certificate, a letter from the CSA, a press release, as well as other recognitions, and he suggested more items be developed for marketing this idea to other cities and counties.

### **Approval of St Joseph County's Application for Community for a Lifetime (CFL)**

#### **Recognition**

Dan Doezeema, OSA staff, described St. Joseph County's application as broad-based, noting they had already been working to coordinate services to their aging population.

Mr. Doezeema highlighted community improvements, and requested the Commission approve recognition for St. Joseph's County's community assessment CFL application.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reid-Smith to approve the recognition. Commissioner Sheehan seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

### **Approval of State Advisory Council on Aging Appointment**

Commissioner Sheehan, State Advisory Council Chair, stated Mary Lou Wolek notified the CSA of her resignation as an Ex-Officio SAC member, and recommended Robin Ford, who sat in for her on several occasions when she couldn't participate, and asked that she begin serving immediately as her replacement.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sheehan to approve the appointment of Robin Ford. Commissioner Irby seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

### **Approval of the Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) Grant**

Wendi Middleton, OSA staff, requested approval for a MMAP continuation grant, noting the funding received was less than normal, and extra funding would be received through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) quality incentive payments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Irby to approve the motion. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **Report on the State Advisory Council**

Commissioner Sheehan, SAC Chair, stated the CSA charged the SAC a year ago to study the impact of boomers on aging resources, to report back to, and advise the CSA. They hope to have the final report done by June, and will incorporate their information with the state plan. Meeting conference calls were broken down into five sub-committees, and they all recently met together. Their next meeting is April 18<sup>th</sup>, which is the joint meeting with the CSA, and they will have one-on-one time together during lunch to allow for further discussion on these topics.

### **State Advisory Council Update**

Commissioner Sheehan stated the CSA gave a charge to the SAC to study the impact of baby boomers on services in the state. After many series of conference calls over the past

several months amongst five subgroups, the SAC met the day before and came up with a rough draft, which is currently being revised and reviewed.

Ms. Middleton and Commissioner Mast suggested SAC member meet with the CSA after the April joint meeting over lunch.

Ms. Middleton provided a handout of the SAC roster, including who plans to reapply, a list of regional vacancies, and SAC applications.

### **Ombudsman RFP**

Scott Wamsley provided an overview and description of the Ombudsman request for proposal (RFP) process, as supported by the CSA, noting strict confidentiality will be observed, and the winning bidder must be in-state, non-profit, culturally appropriate, and maintain high-quality service.

Director Sederburg said Commissioners may suggest points they'd like included in the negotiation process and in the winning bidder, but can't be directly involved in the process.

Mr. Wamsley stated once the process is complete, the CSA will review to determine if conditions were met, and will be part of their approval process.

### **Interagency Care Team**

Lynn Kellogg, CEO of the Region IV Area Agency on Aging, provided a handout and gave a presentation detailing program development initiatives through state management. They are integrating care with hospitals, other care providers, caregivers and participants to provide a seamless process of caring for aged and disabled persons, and have begun a "custom care" program to provide the same benefits to private-pay participants.

Therese Saggau, Executive Director, PACE of Southwest Michigan, Region IV AAA's Dianne Carlson, Community Services Director and Pam Kahanek, Planning and Contracts Manager, and Bob Cochran, Cass County Council on Aging Director, were introduced.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

### **ADJOURN**

Commissioner Mast asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Irby. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ortega.

The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Commissioner Mast adjourned the meeting at 12:10 PM.